(e) whether the customers already registered with the said agency can have their gas connection transferred to any other agency under Indian Oil or Hindustan Petroleum etc. and what is the procedure therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) No, Sir. One complpaint during the last six months received in this regard on enquiry was not substantiated.

(b) No, Sir. No such complaints have been received by the oil company.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) As per the delinking scheme, an LPG consumer can choose a distributor of his choice: The scheme is introduced in a phased manner in metropolitan cities, State capitals and towns having population of 2 lakhs and above. In Bhiwani the delinking scheme has not been introduced so far.

Wrong Electricity Bills by DESU for R.K. Puram and Vasant Vihar Areas

1451. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that DESU has recently sent wrong electricity bills in respect of the consumers in R. K. Puram and Vasant Vihar areas;

(b) whether Government are also aware that the officials of DESU have adopted this method to harass the consumers and to extort money from them;

(c) whether any action is being taken against those officials who send wrong bills to the consumers and if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(d) what action is being taken to streamline the working of the DESU and to weed out the corrupt and inefficient officials from the DESU?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Shortage of quality paper

1452. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the present shortage of quality paper in the country resulting in sudden rise in its prices; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps Government propose to take to meet this shortage and check the rising prices?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) In general, there has been no report regarding shortage of writing and printing papers in the country. Various units in the Paper Industry produce different varieties of paper, as per the domesic demand. Industry sources have also indicated that the prices of writing and printing paper have been ruling stable for the last several months.

Requirement for Petroleum and Petroleum Products

1453. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: SHRI GUFRAN AZAM:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the requirements of petroleum and petroleum products in he country are steeply sising and domestic production is not going up in adequate measure; and

(b) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to meet the oil crisis, and reduce import of these products?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.